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Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2015

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BEAUTY OF RED & WHITE

Miss Alberta Globe, Elena Denning, joined a crowd at Olympic Plaza on Wednesday to celebrate the Calgary Stampede's Canada Day event. More photos and coverage in metroNEWS. JENNIFER FRISEN/FOR METRO

Hanson fires back

INVESTIGATION

**No wrongdoing
in adding officers
to district, says
ex-police chief**



**Robson
Fletcher**
Metro | Calgary

Former Calgary Police Chief Rick Hanson categorically denies any suggestion the addition of 22 police officers to a district that included the riding where he ran for MLA was politically motivated or otherwise improper.

"The decision was made purely on the best interests of the police service, the community and the people of this city," Hanson told Metro in an interview Wednesday.

His comments come after the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) announced Friday it was undertaking an investigation into the deployment.

The investigation was launched a day after CTV reported Hanson was in communication with the Calgary Police Service about the addition of 22 officers to District 5, a large police organizational boundary that includes the constituency of Calgary-Cross, where Hanson ran unsuccessfully as a PC candidate in the May 5 election after resigning as chief in March.

The CTV report was based on documents it obtained through a

freedom-of-information request, showing emails Hanson sent on March 13, his last day as chief, and on March 14, just hours after he was appointed as the PC candidate for Calgary-Cross.

Hanson shared the original emails with Metro on Wednesday and said there was absolutely nothing nefarious about the deployment, which was the result of a review of policing boundaries that began in late 2014.

District 5 simply got larger in geographic area and needed more officers to compensate, Hanson said.

"The whole report was presented to the police commission, which is the oversight body of the Calgary Police Service," Hanson added. "They got the full report and accepted the report and its recommendations."

Hanson said the additional officers only hit the streets two weeks ago and said the redeployment "never came up" during his campaigning.

He also said he has yet to be contacted by ASIRT investigators and said this is an "unusual" type of investigation for the watchdog, which typically looks into police-involved shootings.

"The only people who can deploy ASIRT are the solicitor general's office," Hanson said. "They'd have to explain why they deployed it. All I can say is that it's important the facts be put in front of the community now, so they can know why the decision was made and they can then assess whether this (investigation) was made in the best interest of policing or if there was some ulterior motive."



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STAMPEDE

Notley taking part in parade

Breaking a long-standing tradition, the Calgary Stampede has extended a personal invitation to an Edmonton MLA to take part in the Stampede Parade.

That MLA happens to be Premier Rachel Notley.

Stampede spokeswoman Jennifer Booth said she isn't aware of another instance in which a non-Calgary-elected premier has taken part in the annual parade.

"Typically the premier, in the past few years, has been from Calgary," Booth said. "However, premiers that aren't from Calgary have not ridden in the parade before."

She said this is also the first time the Stampede president extended a personal invitation to the premier to participate.

Typically, parade entrants must apply and be selected by the Calgary Stampede Parade Committee. Applications ended Feb. 20.

Notley was re-elected as the MLA for Edmonton-Strathcona in the May 5 election and sworn in as premier May 24.

"It's always been Calgary Stampede tradition to have Calgary elected officials — so that that's councillors and MLAs and MPs, the Calgary-elected ones — to ride in the parade," Booth said.

Metro contacted the office of the premier for comment but did not get a response by press time.

Booth said Notley accepted the invitation and plans to be in the parade this year. HELEN PIKE/METRO



The Calgary Stampede will kick off Friday with the annual parade and a grassroots group hopes this year's event will be a safe one for all. METRO FILE

#SafeStampede aims to curb harassment

CAMPAIGN

Group launches Tumblr where people can share stories



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

As the Calgary Stampede prepares to launch for 2015, a grassroots campaign hoping to proactively curb what they see as an ongoing issue with harassment

is already gathering stories from women who have witnessed the worst side of the annual festivities.

The same group behind #SafeRedMile is at it again with a new hashtag honing in on harassment during Calgary's biggest week-long party.

The group has also launched a Tumblr encouraging folks to speak out against harassment in the use of #SafeStampede on Twitter.

"It's really hard to know exactly what's happening because women aren't reporting street harassment," said Elizabeth Chorney-Booth, one of the women

behind the movement. "You're not going to call 911; you just leave usually, and then maybe that prevents you from showing up at events in the future."

"It's more a fact-finding, curiosity thing, than anything," she added.

Pam Krause, executive director with the Calgary Sexual Health Centre, said the initiative is a way for Calgarians to speak out against harassment in a tangible form.

"What many of us have seen for years ... is this attitude that one of the acceptable things to do during Stampede is to be harassing — to be sexually harass-

ing," said Krause.

In a statement, the Calgary Stampede said it supports open conversations about the topic.

"Calgary has a reputation as a warm, safe and welcoming city and it's pretty powerful when we have citizens encouraging other citizens to uphold and demonstrate the value of western hospitality — treating each other and visitors with respect," the statement reads.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi also expressed support for the campaign.

"Great initiative," he tweeted. "Let's all have a #safestampede for everyone!"

POLITICS

Opposition questioning NDP staffer's alleged past conviction

Alberta's official Opposition is calling on the minister responsible for the status of women to answer questions surrounding 21-year-old court records that appear to show a criminal conviction for assault against Shannon Phillips' current chief of staff.

Angela Pitt, the Wildrose critic on the status of women, described the court records as "deeply concerning" and, in a statement, added: "Albertans I've spoken with are looking for explanations."

The documents were dug up and made public this week by Ezra Levant, a conservative activist who hosted a daily television show on the Sun News Network before the network was shut down earlier this year.

The court records from 1994 show a criminal conviction for assault causing bodily harm against Brent Michael Dancey, in relation to an October 1993 incident in Regina that sent a man to hospital. Dancey was less than a year out of high school at the time, according to the court documents.

Phillips recently hired Brent Dancey, a former staffer with the Manitoba NDP government, as her chief of staff.

In a statement issued through her press secretary, Phillips declined to comment on his hiring.

"A number of legal issues may arise around the publication of details around this matter," the statement reads. "And so it would not be appropriate for us to comment further at this time." METRO



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CRIME

Gas-and-dash suspect faces murder charge

The man facing two lesser charges in the death of 35-year-old Maryam Rashidi is now facing a murder charge, court records show.

Twenty-year-old Joshua Cody Mitchell, who was originally charged with dangerous driving causing death and criminal negligence causing death, is now facing a second-degree murder charge in connection to the June 7 incident.

According to police, Rashidi was working as an employee at a Centex Gas Station in the 1700 block of 16 Avenue NW when Mitchell and a teenage boy stole \$113 in fuel before driving off.

Rashidi, in an attempt to stop the vehicle — a stolen 2006 Ford Super Duty, which police believe Mitchell was driving — stood in front of it when it attempted to



Maryam Rashidi
CONTRIBUTED

flee a nearby parking lot. Mitchell then allegedly hit Rashidi, carrying her on the hood for roughly 15 metres, before she was thrown from the vehicle and subsequently run over.

Rashidi was taken to hospital in critical condition and on June 9, passed away in hospital, leaving behind her husband, Ahmad Nourani Shallo, and their six-year-old son.

Mitchell is scheduled to be back in court for a bail hearing on July 30.

METRO

WARNING

High-risk offender released in Calgary

Police are warning the public about the release of a high-risk offender into the Calgary area.

Russell Noskey, 54, was released Tuesday after the completion of a two-year federal prison sentence for assault causing bodily harm.

Noskey is described as an aboriginal male, standing five-foot-eight and weighing 170 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes. He also has two tattoos, one on his left hand saying "R.N" and a small cross on his left forearm.

He has a long history of violent offences, police said in a release. His convictions include dangerous driving and impaired driving, threats, assault, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, assault causing bodily harm, assault with a weapon, pointing a firearm, sexual assault and manslaughter. His past offences have



Russell Noskey
CONTRIBUTED

well as people known to him, according to police.

He will now be monitored by the Calgary Police Service High Risk Offender Program.

Police said they are "issuing this information and warning after careful deliberation and consideration of all related issues, including privacy concerns, in the belief that it is clearly in the public interest to inform the members of the community of the release of Noskey." METRO

been committed in Edmonton and Peace River.

Noskey has been known to be violent against strangers as



Transit director Doug Morgan demonstrates the Connect card system on a city bus in 2014. Fed up with delays, the city has decided to abandon Connect and cancel its contract with Schneider Electric. METRO FILE

Transit scrapping Connect card system

TRANSPORTATION

City seeks to recoup \$5M from contractor



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Calgary Transit's deal with the company it hired to complete an electronic fare system in 2010 and again in 2013 has gone completely off the rails.

Transit now plans to scrap its

Connect card system, cancel its contract with Schneider Electric (formerly known as Telvent), and recoup \$5 million it has already paid the company "through all legal means necessary."

An initial contract with Telvent was terminated in 2012 after "repeated delays and failures during trial runs of the system."

The contract was then picked up again in late 2013 with hopes a new fare system could be pulled together by July 2015.

Earlier this year, Metro reported the date had again shifted to a fall 2015 launch.

"Last year they made it clear

that they could deliver on the project," transit director Doug Morgan told reporters Tuesday. "The requirements were clear, but unfortunately at this time they are unable to do that and we have to cancel the project."

In a statement provided to Metro, Schneider Electric said it still believed the system "would have provided value to the city" if it had been completed.

"We are disappointed that the City of Calgary has chosen not to move forward with the completion of this project to improve the transit experience of its citizens," corporate spokes-

man Tony Good said.

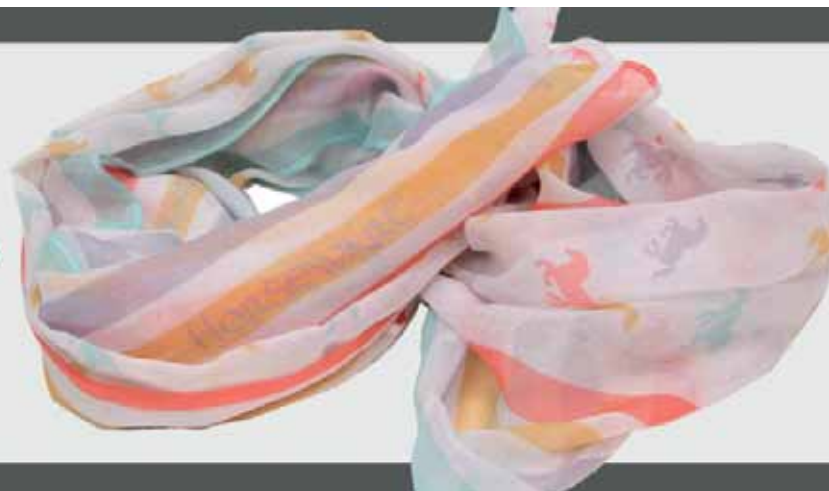
Mayor Naheed Nenshi said he was "sad" the city wasn't able to deliver on the program, but added it was the right decision to outright "pull the plug" on the project rather than change providers and see overall costs escalate.

"When we look at examples of other cities, where everyone is having a big problem with this, in Toronto — I should say in Ontario — the Presto card is now being estimated at \$700 million," Nenshi said.

"I'd rather build LRT for that kind of money."

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IN BRIEF

Suspect wounded by police after fatal stabbing

Two people are dead following an early morning stabbing at a work camp in northern Alberta.

RCMP say Mounties shot and wounded a suspect near Fox Creek, 260 kilometres northwest of Edmonton. Officers found two men dead at the scene. The 28-year-old suspect was transported to an Edmonton hospital in serious condition.

"At this time, investigators believe the man acted alone and are not looking for any other suspects," RCMP Cpl. Carol McKinley said in a release.

The stabbings occurred at an oil industry work camp known as Berland Open Lodge operated by Canada North Group Inc.

RCMP have not released the identities of the victims or the suspect.

Autopsies are scheduled for next week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Deaths of two people in fire not suspicious: RCMP

Two people were killed in a house fire near Olds but police said Wednesday neither their deaths nor the blaze are considered suspicious.

The bodies of Gery Fuchs, 62, and Lori Fuchs, 59, were recovered from the home on Tuesday, which was "fully engaged" by fire early Monday, according to police.

Autopsies were completed Wednesday and the deceased were identified as the owners of the home. Olds RCMP said in a release the cause of death in both cases "is not suspicious" and noted "fire investigators have determined that the cause of the fire is not suspicious." METRO



Miriam Javed, 4, Aatika Javed, 5, and Wazia Huba, 5, sang the national anthem with the Nasiratulhamdiya children's choir for the annual Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada Day celebration. LUCIE EDWARDSON/FOR METRO

Muslim community hosts celebration

CANADA DAY

Mayor gives speech, says 'we are all in it together'

Lucie Edwardson
For Metro | Calgary

Dressed in red and white, the proud little voices of the Nasiratulhamdiya children's choir sang the words of the national anthem for all to hear at the annual Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada Day celebration Wednesday.

The event brought Calgar-

ians of all creeds and cultures together in celebration of the nation's 148th birthday.

Zaman Masih, who immigrated to Canada 15 years ago, said the annual event allows him to celebrate and share with his children lessons about the country that he said has given them every chance at a good life.

"I have three young kids and I bring them out and show them how important it is to celebrate this country where they have opportunity and they have privilege," he said.

Masih's three small children were all born in Canada, and he said celebrations such as this one expose his kids to people of all walks of life.

"When they come out and

Whether you were born here, came here or grow here, Canada opens its heart to all.

Ifra Sabir

see people of all religions and ethnicities coming together, they will feel comfortable, and this is very important because it is the only way to learn how to live in harmony," he said.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi addressed the hundreds of people in attendance Wednesday, chal-

lenging them to take Canada Day as an opportunity to "reaffirm our commitment to this great nation and all that she stands for."

Nenshi reminded the crowd that Canadian people are lucky to celebrate a nation where "we are all in it together."

"Our neighbours' pain is our pain; our neighbours' strength is our strength; and the success of any one of us is the success of every one of us," he said.

Ifra Sabir, Human Services Minister and MLA for Calgary McCall, said he believes all those who are fortunate enough to live in Canada have "hit the jackpot."

"Whether you were born here, came here or grow here, Canada opens its heart to all," he said.

STORE

Italian Centre now open

Stephanie Dubois
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton's fabled Italian Centre is set to official open the doors of its first-ever store outside the city, in Calgary, on Thursday, but its president has her eyes set even farther afield.

Indeed, three bustling shops in Edmonton and now an 18,000 square-foot location in Calgary's southeast aren't enough for president Teresa Spinelli. She said in an interview that opportunities for expansion to cities like Red Deer are already in the works, while moving into the markets in Saskatchewan and Manitoba also high on her list, eventually.

“What we do is a little different than just a regular store.”

Teresa Spinelli

"That is a dream, a hope," Spinelli said.

But first on her agenda, she said, is launching a second store in Calgary, which she hopes to open in 2016.

"What we do is a little different than just a regular store," Spinelli said. "We're really a gathering place and part of the community. Calgary has some fantastic Italian stores but we're a little different, and I think a lot of communities look forward to a store like ours."

Spinelli's father, Franco, founded the Italian Centre in Edmonton in 1959. The story goes that his business started when he began importing newspapers and food from his native Italy and the local Italian community gave him business.

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Living the flag

Canada Day celebrations Downtown Calgary was awash with red and white on Wednesday, as thousands braved both the heat and the rain to celebrate Canada's 148th birthday. Many lined up for hours to take part in the city's third "living flag" demonstration. **JENNIFER FRIESEN** METRO



Jean Yarla dances to the YMCA at Prince's Island Park.



Danilo Uhac chooses a red shirt for the "living flag."

Across the city, Calgarians joined in with Chinatown Fest, an East Village Street Fair and a pancake breakfast at Fort Calgary.

Prince's Island Park saw an estimated 15,000 people throughout the day, with their living flag demonstration and a First Nations Powwow.

"Calgary's community is really strong in this way," said Jessica Turje while stopping for lunch at the Food Truck Roundup in Eau Claire.

"There are some things that are truly Calgarian, you see that in the heritage."

"Everything's so multi-cultural and welcoming — it's so Canadian."



Blake Yellowhorn dances at the second annual Canada Day First Nations powwow.



Noah Green, 5, gets his face painted by Lauren Givogue.



Levi Lybbert, 6, stops to feed the sheep at Olympic Plaza.

At Prince's Island Park, Blake Yellowhorn flew into the crowd draped in feathers and beads of every colour.

The 23-year-old man made the two-hour trip from Brocket, Alta. to join Calgary's second annual Canada Day First Nations powwow.

"I've been dancing for six years now — it's what keeps me going," said Yellowhorn.

"I'm just glad to celebrate my heritage and keep it going, because it's still

going to this day and that's why I still celebrate — we're still strong."

This year, the celebration included an Inuit throat singer and a teepee village teaching First Nations History.

"It's important because Aboriginal people were the first people in Canada," said Blair Cunningham, Iniiikokaan Aboriginal Centre.

"So to celebrate and learn about our traditions is something that everyone should be able to enjoy."

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Arlond Smalleyes joins in opening the First Nations powwow.



The crowd at Prince's Island Park donned fake tattoos and face paint.



Anne Fusin strikes a pose on Prince's Island Park.

Over 3,000 people lined up to join in Calgary's third annual "living flag" demonstration, donning white and red shirts to turn themselves into the Canadian flag.

Lisa and Shawn Welsh headed the line on Prince's Island Park, waiting an hour and 45 minutes to ensure they nabbed the top of the maple leaf.

"We just heard about it yesterday and thought it was the perfect way to celebrate Canada Day," said Shawn.

"I'm really patriotic. I love the country, so I wanted to show it."

According to Teresa Byrne, superintendent of festivals and events for the

City of Calgary, the tradition began in 2012 after Winnipeg and Victoria tested it out.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the flag's design, something Bryne says "adds a little extra significance to the tradition."

Bryne said the turnout has grown every year, with the line this year wrapping around Prince's Island Park all the way to Eau Claire.

"It's become an unofficial challenge across the country in terms of who can get the largest living flag," she said.

"It's just such a great way to bring the many faces of Calgarians together with one unified picture."



Shawn and Lisa Welsh were the first in line for the "living flag" demonstration.

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SASKATCHEWAN

Thick smoke stifles wildfires

The number of people forced from their homes by Saskatchewan wildfire smoke continues to climb, but a provincial official says the smoke is now so thick that it's actually helping control the fires.

Steve Roberts with Saskatchewan's environment ministry says the layer of smoke that covers the northern part of the province has blocked out direct sunlight.

Roberts says that's lowered

temperatures and boosted humidity, which means the fires are less volatile.

Officials say they don't have an estimate of the total number of evacuees, but say they're currently housing over 4,000 people in hotels and other evacuation centres in North Battleford, Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina.

There were 110 active fires in Saskatchewan on Wednesday. Only about 10 were contained.

The smoke hampered the operations of firefighting aircraft on Tuesday. Roberts says air tankers are on standby if smoke clears and visibility is safe.

"As much as it's not good for people, because the cloud layer is filled with smoke and is so thick, our temperatures are roughly 10 degrees cooler and our humidity is 10 to 15 per cent higher. That combination means the fire activity drops significantly," Roberts explained. THE CANADIAN PRESS



LITTLE HERD ON THE PRAIRIES BISON BOUNCING BACK A herd of Prairie bison graze on the Old Man on His Back Prairie and Heritage Conservation Area south of Swift Current, Sask., on June 18. The bison, once hunted to near extinction, were reintroduced to the area in 2003.

BILL GRAVELAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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ORDER OF CANADA

Rideau Hall names 100 appointees

The man who helped create the BlackBerry, the female CEOs of two provincial public broadcasters, and a noted First Nations actor are among the Canadians being appointed to the Order of Canada.

Rideau Hall's Canada Day announcement allows those on the list to share the news of the honour, which is usually kept secret until Gov. Gen. David Johnston makes the information public.

This year's notable names include Douglas Fregin, the man who co-founded Research in Motion with Mike Lazaridis.

Fregin designed the first circuit board the company used to run early versions of its wireless technology, and then helped choose the materials that are still found in BlackBerry devices today.

Lazaridis's wife Ophelia is also being invested as a member of the Order of Canada for her philanthropic work around Waterloo, Ont., where BlackBerry is based.

Author Lawrence Hill will be recognized for his telling of the stories of Canada's black community, notably with the critically acclaimed *Book of Negroes*, and for his advocacy work on behalf of women and girls in Africa.

Oscar-nominated and Gemini award-winning actor Graham Greene is a familiar face in film, television and theatre in Canada and overseas.

The First Nations actor is be-



Bob Rae THE CANADIAN PRESS

ing honoured for "achievements as a pioneering and versatile actor," which include a 1991 Academy Award best supporting actor nomination for his role in the film *Dances with Wolves*.

Also being honoured are TVOntario CEO Lisa de Wilde for "transformative leadership" at the provincial public broadcaster, and Tele-Quebec counterpart Michele Fortin for her "contributions to the vitality of French-language and educational television."

Rideau Hall says there will be 100 new appointments to the Order of Canada, with one being a promotion to the highest level — former Ontario premier and Liberal MP Bob Rae is being invested as a companion — while the other is an honorary appointment for Johan Olav Koss, an Olympic speed skating champion from Norway.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BOMB SCARES

Four empty threats

For the fourth time in less than a week, a Canadian passenger jet has had to make an emergency landing because of a threat made against it.

Saskatoon Police say there was no bomb on the latest jet that was the target of a threat.

An explosives team has completed its search of the jet and determined that there was no explosive device on board.

The plane was travelling from

Toronto to Saskatoon on Tuesday evening and landed safely.

The 113 passengers and five crew members were forced to disembark on the tarmac.

It's the fourth time in a week that a Canadian passenger jet has had to make an emergency landing because of a threat.

In all of the cases, searches of the aircraft unearthed nothing suspicious.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reopening of embassies signals new era for Cuba

DIPLOMACY

Posts in Washington, Havana set to open July 20

U.S. President Barack Obama announced Wednesday that the U.S. and Cuba will reopen their embassies in Havana and Washington, heralding a "new chapter" in relations after a half-century of hostility.

"We don't have to be imprisoned by the past," Obama said from the White House Rose Garden. "Americans and Cubans alike are ready to move forward."

Cuban television broadcast Obama's statement live, underscoring the new spirit. A state television anchor read a letter from Cuban President Raul Castro to Obama in which he wrote that Cuba is "encouraged by the reciprocal intention to

develop respectful relations and co-operation between our people and governments."

The embassy agreement marks the biggest tangible step toward normalizing relations since the surprise announcement in December that the U.S. and Cuba were restarting diplomatic ties.

The posts in Washington and Havana are scheduled to open July 20, Cuba's Foreign Ministry said.

The U.S. cut off diplomatic relations with Cuba in 1961 after Fidel Castro's revolution.

For Obama, ending the U.S. freeze with Cuba is central to his foreign policy legacy as he nears the end of his presidency. Obama has long argued that the U.S. economic embargo on the communist island just 145 kilometres (90 miles) south of Florida was ineffective.

Amid the celebratory rhetoric, there were words of caution from both countries.



Anti-Castro activist Osvaldo Hernandez shouts anti-Obama slogans Wednesday in the Little Havana area of Miami.

ALAN DIAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A statement from the Cuban government said reopening embassies was just the first step in "a long and complex

process toward normalization of bilateral ties."

It demanded an end to the U.S. embargo, the return of the

U.S. naval base at Guantanamo and a halt to U.S. radio and TV broadcasts aimed at the island.

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Republican Congresswoman from Florida, said in a statement that opening a U.S. Embassy in Cuba "will do nothing to help the Cuban people and is just another trivial attempt for President Obama to go legacy shopping."

The president on Wednesday reiterated his call for Congress to lift the embargo.

However, he faces stiff resistance from Republicans, as well as some Democrats, who say he is prematurely rewarding a government that engages in serious human rights abuses.

The president also will face strong opposition in Congress to spending any taxpayer dollars for building or refurbishing an embassy in Havana.

Congress would have to approve any administration request to spend money on an embassy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PRISONERS

Escapees did a dry run first

One of two convicted murderers who broke out of a maximum-security prison last month told police that they conducted a practice run the night before their escape, even poking their heads out of a manhole before deciding they were too close to nearby homes, a district attorney said.

Clinton County District Attorney Andrew Wylie said David Sweat, 35, told police from his hospital bed that he masterminded the June 6 breakout from Clinton Correctional Facility.

The escape by Sweat and 49-year-old Richard Matt launched a massive 23-day manhunt. Matt was shot and killed by a border patrol officer June 26. Sweat was wounded Sunday by a state trooper.

Wylie said Sweat claimed he used only a hacksaw blade — not power tools, as officials had reported — to cut holes in the steel walls of his and Richard Matt's adjoining cells as well as a steam pipe they crawled through. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SECOND WORLD WAR

'Britain's Schindler' dies at age 106

He was just a 29-year-old clerk at the London Stock Exchange when he faced the challenge of a lifetime. Travelling with a friend to Czechoslovakia in 1938, as the drums of impending war echoed around Europe, Nicholas Winton was hit by a key realization.

The country was in danger and no one was saving its Jewish children.

Winton would almost single-handedly save more than

650 Jewish children from the Holocaust. He died Wednesday at age 106 in a hospital near Maidenhead, his hometown west of London, his family said.

Winton arranged trains to carry children from Nazi-occupied Prague to Britain, battling bureaucracy at both ends and saving them from almost certain death. He then kept quiet about his exploits for a half-century.

A film about his heroism,

Nicholas Winton — The Power of Good, won an International Emmy Award in 2002. Then Prime Minister Tony Blair praised him as "Britain's Schindler," after German businessman Oskar Schindler, who also saved Jewish lives during the war.

In life Winton rejected the description of himself as a hero, insisting that unlike Oskar Schindler, his life had never been in danger.

"At the time, everybody said, 'Isn't it wonderful what you've done for the Jews? You saved all these Jewish people,'" Winton said. "When it was first said to me, it came almost as a revelation. Because I didn't do it particularly for that reason. I was there to save children."

Winton's wife Grete died in 1999. He is survived by his daughter Barbara, his son Nick and several grandchildren.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



People surround and attend to a 68-year-old man bitten by a shark in waist-deep water off Ocracoke Island, N.C., Wednesday. COURTESY LAURA I. HEFTY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shark bites swimmer

NORTH CAROLINA

Recent spike in attacks blamed on crowded beaches

A shark bit a 68-year-old man several times Wednesday in waist-deep water in North Carolina, officials said, the seventh attack in the state's coastal waters in less than three weeks.

The man suffered wounds to his rib cage, lower leg, hip and both hands as he tried to fight off the animal, said Justin Gibbs, a local emergency official. The attack happened around noon on a beach on Ocracoke Island, he said.

"The individual was actually located right in front of the lifeguard tower when it occurred," said Gibbs, who said witnesses reported the animal was about seven feet (two metres) long. "He was pulled under by the shark. He was bit several times."

The victim was swimming in waist-deep water with his adult son about 30 feet (nine metres)

offshore, the National Park Service said in a news release. No other swimmers were injured.

The man is the seventh person attacked along the North Carolina coast in three weeks, the most in at least 15 years. Most were attacked in water similarly shallow. The injuries ranged from minor ones to the heel and ankle of an eight-year-old.

Shark experts say the recent spate of attacks along on the coast of the Carolinas is due to so many more people getting in the water. Americans made 2.2 billion visits to beaches in 2010, up from 2 billion in 2001, according to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimate.

Scientists say that there have been reports of small bait fish coming closer to shore this summer, which attracts sharks. There have also been reports of larger numbers of sea turtles along the coast, which sharks also like to eat.

Swimmers were back in the water at that spot within a couple of hours after the attack, Hefty said. "Nobody seems to be that scared," she said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF**White House allows non-flash photography**

Want to take a picture inside the White House landmark Blue Room? Well, it's now OK to pull out your cellphone or camera and press "shoot."

The White House on Wednesday ended a long-standing ban on tourists taking photos or using social media

during public tours of the building.

The White House said the more than 40-year-old ban was lifted because changes in camera technology make it possible to take high-quality photos using less light. Strong light can damage the delicate pigments used in art work. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Federal R&D investments not paying off

ECONOMY

Memo says Canada behind U.S. on business innovation

Spending billions of public dollars over two decades has done little to reverse Canada's long decline in the key economic category of business innovation, the

federal government acknowledged in a newly released document.

The self-assessment, contained in a memorandum to Finance Minister Joe Oliver, underlines how sluggish business innovation remains "of great concern" for Canadian productivity.

"Canada's productivity performance, a key determinant of economic growth, continues to lag significantly behind that of the United States, eroding our relative standard of living," says

the October memo, signed by deputy finance minister Paul Rochon.

"The innovation performance of Canadian firms has continued to fall relative to the previous two decades, despite considerable federal efforts in recent years."

That push included more than \$11 billion spent by the Harper government between 2006 and 2014 on new resources to support research and innovation,

66

Canada's been a "D" performer basically since we started doing this.

Daniel Munro, Conference Board of Canada

the document says.

On top of that, the note said the government also pumped

\$10.9 billion into science, technology and innovation activities and provided another \$3.3 billion in tax relief. In 2014, the memo said \$1.6 billion was dedicated over five years.

The memo to Oliver also warned how tougher competition in the knowledge-based global economy could leave Canada behind.

The note, titled Canadian Business Innovation Landscape, was obtained by The Canadian Press

under the Access to Information Act.

The document said Canadian businesses perform well at the international level when it comes to primary research, but they trail their global counterparts in R&D.

In general, the document said Canadian companies rely more on "imitation than on innovation" and are less likely to collaborate in R&D than firms in other G7 countries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NORTH DAKOTA

Calendar highlights eclectic holidays

To most Americans, July 4 is Independence Day. But on Marlo Anderson's calendar, it's also Caesar Salad Day and Barbecued Spareribs Day.

Anderson is the mastermind of the National Day Calendar, an online compendium of pseudo-holidays that has become a resource for TV and radio stations looking to add a little levity to their broadcasts, among others.

The 52-year-old co-owner of a VHS digitizing company in North Dakota started the calendar in 2013 and soon realized the site could also be a way for people to declare their own special days. So last year, he started charging \$1,500 to \$4,000 for "national day" proclamations.

"People certainly don't need to use us. It's just we really give it a jumpstart," he said.

Marketing experts give Anderson credit for seizing on the desire by companies and groups for another way to promote themselves, though they question the effectiveness of some of the resulting campaigns. It's not the only reason for celebration, but food seems to be a common subject for special days.

Already, the National Day Calendar says it has given its blessing to more than 30 made-up holidays. A crouton maker paid for National Crouton Day (May 13), a seafood restaurant submitted National Fried Clam Day (July 3) and a craft beer maker came up with National Refreshment



Zoovio co-owner Marlo Anderson eats homemade fudge to commemorate National Fudge Day.

WILL KINCAID/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Day (fourth Thursday in July).

Anderson's venture, which he says brings in roughly \$50,000 a year, underscores the free-for-all nature of such days.

At the National Day Calendar, one-time proclamations for birthdays, anniversaries and other occasions are on sale for \$19.99 or \$39.99. The price for ongoing inclusion in the calendar is higher.

For \$1,500, Anderson provides a framed proclamation. For \$2,500, he helps arrange interviews with the media. And for \$4,000 and travel expenses, he'll show up to present proclamations at events.

This fall, he's travelling to New York for National Dumpling Day (Sept. 26); the day was submitted by TMI Corp., a distributor of Asian foods. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Manhattan apartments hit new high, average \$1.8M

The average sales price of a Manhattan apartment has eclipsed \$1.8 million — a new high. The appraisal firm Miller Samuel says in a report for Douglas Elliman Real Estate that its figure — \$1.87 million — compares to \$1.77 million reached in the first quarter of last year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS

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Thursday, July 2, 2015



ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Journalists can learn a trick or two from comedy

You've gotta love Marc Maron.

Or, if you're a journalist, fear him a little bit.

The man interviews U.S. President Barack Obama for an hour, in his garage, for his podcast (called WTF with Marc Maron), and it's maybe the most compelling interview with the president ever recorded.

It's been hailed as a turning point in the legitimacy of podcasting, and made headlines because the president said the N-word, but it's much more than that. It's evidence that comedians make excellent interviewers and political pundits — and they may just be doing journalists' jobs better than we are.

Maron and Obama had a real, honest-to-goodness chat in the style that has made Maron famous. Maron is so extremely transparent and insecure ("How was it? How did I do? What did he think?" he obsesses in a post-mortem podcast) that his subjects have to respond with candour of their own.

Maron brought politics down to the human level, giving us something we've been craving: to see politicians as real people and some evidence they're telling the truth.

"I was so focused, intently focused on having a one-on-one experience with him," Maron reflected.

"All I wanted to do is connect with the guy."

nect with the guy."

The same could be said for many voters. But how many journalists get past the oily veneer of talking points?

On TV, the best political commentator is John Oliver. Those who've been fretting over the end of John Stewart and Stephen Colbert need not fear — Oliver takes out enough bullsh-t trash for the both of them.

Canadians are still waiting for our Stewart/Colbert/Oliver. (Rick Mercer, known for wonky camera angles meant to liven up his rants, is far too PC.) Sure, we've got comedians trying to take down Harper with their get-out-the-vote effort, Harpoon. But it's so far only speaking to 1,233 Facebook fans.

It's not a zero-sum game. There are talented political reporters and interviewers on both sides of the border. But journalism — the trade most concerned with the truth — can learn a trick or two from comedy, the trade most adept at revealing it.

From Maron, the power of vulnerability. From Stewart/Colbert/Oliver, the tack of insisting that politicians make sense, and if they don't, offering up context to reveal idiocy.

If anything can help the media be less of a megaphone for truthiness, it might be this competition from journo-comics.

THE BIG THING: RED, WHITE AND ... BLUE?

The federal government has kept quiet about the \$7 million it gave to local Canada Day celebrations this year, but based on what we do know, it appears these red-and-white festivities took place disproportionately in ridings of Tory blue. But 'tis the season to study Canadian history — which shows this type of alleged pork-barrel (Canadian bacon-barrel?) politics is nothing new.

SOURCE: THE CANADIAN PRESS



1 Mystery money

Canadian Heritage funded 1,658 patriotic events between June 21 and July 1. Most projects were small, but only 130 (eight per cent) have been disclosed publicly. Of the 30 ridings where municipalities are known to have received the federal funding, 27 are likely to go or stay Conservative in this fall's election.

2 Blue gets more green A Globe and Mail investigation this week revealed ridings that elected Conservative MPs in 2011 received an average of 48 per cent more than opposition-held ridings from the \$150-million Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund (a separate pile from the Canada Day money).

3 The more things change The feds have long been accused of disproportionate spending in government-held ridings, especially those represented by cabinet ministers. A famous example in the 1990s involved the RCMP after an audit revealed federal employment grants were overwhelmingly given in Liberal ridings, including that of then-prime minister Jean Chrétien.

Consider your lungs this barbecue season

THE SCIENCE

Stephanie Orford



Smoke is often a sign of celebration — fireworks, firing up the barbecue, getting out the marshmallows for a beach bonfire. All great in moderation.

We take smoke for granted; it's just what happens when you cook. Smoky flavours are even trendy.

But household smoke inhalation is a worldwide health issue, whether it's in a one-room house in the outskirts of Shanghai or a grill in a Calgary sunroom.

According to the World Health Organization, smoke inhalation from cooking causes an estimated 3.8 million deaths per year. More than measles, malaria and HIV/AIDS combined. All three of those have elicited worldwide health cam-

paigns. Smoke inhalation? Not so much.

Human lungs are delicate, complex structures. In their thinnest spots, the alveoli, the barrier between your blood and the outside air, can be just one cell thick. Maintaining its health is crucial. And lungs need to be elastic so they can stretch and contract as you breathe.

Inhaling smoke gums up that system. The medical community got serious about smoke's effects during the world wars, when poisonous gases — including phosphene, a component of common cooking smoke — were used as weapons.

Nitrogen dioxide and cyanide, among many other toxins, are also found in household smoke.

When they're inhaled, these noxious gases and particles kill and irritate cells in the inner surfaces of the lungs. When these cells are damaged, the lungs

In enclosed cooking spaces, smoke can be 100 times higher than acceptable levels.

lose capacity to produce the protective mucus that lubricates the lungs so they can stretch, trap particles and protect against infection.

Smoke inhalation also impairs the clearance action of cilia, a carpet of microscopic moving hairs on the inner surface of the lungs that would normally sweep the mucus out — and much of the harmful stuff with it.

But toxic smoke can kill lung-lining cells, causing them to slough off and partially block the airway, making breathing more difficult.

Your body's inflammatory reaction to smoke inhalation can cause major damage too. Less than a day

after smoke inhalation, a type of swelling called upper-airway edema can set in, constricting the airways and making them less elastic.

But household smoke's most widespread damage happens through lower levels of exposure over a longer time — months or years spent cooking indoors in a poorly ventilated space.

In enclosed cooking spaces that are poorly ventilated, smoke can be 100 times higher than acceptable levels for small particles, the WHO says. Worldwide, charcoal and wood are the most common culprits.

The need for clean, renewable energy sources isn't just about protecting the planet; it's a necessary safeguard for human health that we need to be more aware of.

Stephanie Orford is a Vancouver-based science writer.

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PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan

THE TRUTH IS ALWAYS SOMETHING THAT IS TOLD NOT SOMETHING THAT IS KNOWN

SUSAN SONTAG

RYAN PORTER/LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

It's already a smash by any measure, but is Cheerleader Canada's Song of the Summer? The remixed reggae crowdpleaser by Jamaican artist OMI (pronounced Oh-Mi) has been certified double platinum in Canada and reigned at No. 1 on the Soundscan chart for three weeks in June. From the rooftop of Toronto's Thompson Hotel, where young and beautiful summer sun worshippers trail their toes in the infinity pool, OMI, pictured at left, chatted with Metro about why his breakthrough hit could soon be blaring from every beach-party Bluetooth speaker in the country.

For the record, OMI believes men can be cheerleaders, too. "It doesn't have to be the woman supporting the man," he says. "A woman can sing to her man or her love. Whoever is that support system for you."

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Books **metro**LIFE

Life on the run for Those Girls

PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER

**Author returns
with her most
compelling
thriller yet**

BOOKWORM

Sue
Carter

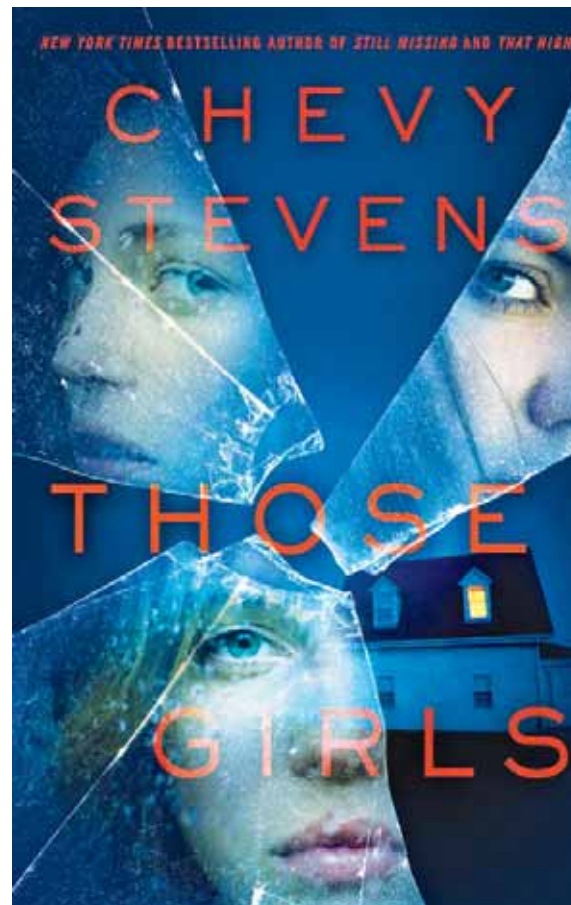


Vancouver author Chevy Stevens has made her name writing disturbing character-driven novels often compared to Gillian Flynn's twisted psychological thrillers. But Stevens' latest, *Those Girls*, is less *Gone Girl* than it is S.E. Hinton's beloved 1967 coming-of-age story *The Outsiders*, in which two young greasers from the wrong side of the tracks run away after accidentally killing another teenager in self-defence.

Published by St. Martin's Press, *Those Girls* tracks the lives of three sisters, Dani, Courtney and Jess Campbell, on the run after a fight with their abusive, alcoholic father gets out of hand. When their car breaks down in a rough interior B.C. town, the sisters land in a harrowing situation only imaginable in the worst of nightmares. The book's second half, narrated by youngest sister Jess and her teenage daughter Skylar, shifts the story 18 years into the future. Although the women have built new identities and lives, they're still recovering from the trauma, which inevitably leads them right back to the dark, violent town.

While *Those Girls* has all the touchstones of Stevens' previous four books — a visceral sense of place and strong women protagonists bound mercilessly to their circumstances — the author challenged herself to write about the emotional lives of multiple characters.

"I wanted to write about women trying to recover,"



Those Girls tracks the emotional lives of three sisters in a dark and violent B.C. town. CONTRIBUTED

Stevens says, "to look at the strength they have, all the feelings and vulnerability."

A self-confessed romantic at heart, Stevens found the emotional moments between the sisters the most difficult to write. "I had to go deep, deep," she says. As she wrote the book's graphic violent scenes, of which there are many, Stevens says she tried to avoid reading or watching any dark stories. "I imagined terrifying scenarios," she says. "I do need to scare myself."

Stevens' professional writing career began with a frightening story idea that hit close

to home. Then a real estate agent in Nanaimo, Stevens (whose real name is Rene Unischewski) became obsessed with a scenario in which a realtor is snatched from an empty house by a psychopath, who imprisons her for a year. Unhappy and ready to make a life change, Stevens saved her money and sold her own property to focus on writing the manuscript, which took several years. The risk clearly paid off: Stevens' first book, 2010's *Still Missing*, became a New York Times bestseller and sold internationally in more than 30 countries (her books are very popular in Germany). Her second book, *Never Knowing*, has been optioned for film by *Die Hard 2* director Renny Harlin.

Stevens says she created fictional towns for *Those Girls*, not wanting to set its horrific crimes in real-life locations. "I wanted it to feel like dusty small towns that could be anywhere," Stevens says. "And ultimately, emotional stories should transcend location."

I wanted to write about women trying to recover, to look at the strength they have, all the feelings and vulnerability

Author Chevy Stevens



Ballet breakthrough

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

Misty Copeland achieves dream as principal dancer at ABT

Misty Copeland, the Missouri-born ballerina who's become a forceful voice for diversity in ballet and achieved a celebrity that far transcends that rarified world, was named principal dancer at American Ballet Theatre on Tuesday — the first African-American woman to reach that status in the company's 75-year history.

Copeland, 32, fought tears as she spoke about her promotion, which she said was a lifetime dream — but such a difficult one to attain that she never really thought it would happen.

"This is it," she said. "This has been my dream since I was 13, to be a principal dancer and reach these heights."

"But it hasn't been overnight," she added at a hastily arranged news conference — a rarity for a ballet promotion. "It's been 14 years of

extremely hard work ... I'm just so extremely honoured to be an African-American and to be in this position."

And, Copeland said, she hoped her ascension to the very top ranks of ballet would inspire other young dancers of colour — "all the little girls" — to stick with their own dreams.

"So many young dancers of colour stop dancing at an early age because they just don't think there will be a career path for them," she said. "I hope that will change." She spoke of her own doubts when she joined the ABT corps at age 19 and saw no one "who looked like me."

"I had moments of doubting myself and wanting to quit, because I didn't know

if there would be a future for an African-American woman at that level," she said. "At the same time, it made me so hungry to push through."

The company announced the promotion six days after Copeland made her New York debut as Odette/Odile in Swan Lake, one of the most important roles in a ballerina's repertoire. The emotional performance ended with Copeland being feted onstage by trailblazing black ballerinas of earlier generations, and with a sea of fans cheering and taking cellphone videos.

Copeland paid tribute on Tuesday.

"It's not me up here," she said. "It's everyone who came before me and got me to this position."

"So many young dancers of colour stop dancing at an early age ... I hope that will change"

Copeland has become increasingly famous over the past several years, achieving a pop culture status exceedingly rare for a ballet dancer.

"We haven't had a ballet dancer who has broken through to popular culture like this since Mikhail Baryshnikov," said Wendy Perron, an author and the former editor of Dance Magazine. "And she's going to bring more attention from that world to ballet."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Misty Copeland
GETTY IMAGES

+ DRAWING A DIVERSE AUDIENCE, TOO

Many who attended Copeland's historic Swan Lake performance last week noted what a diverse audience Copeland had drawn to the Metropolitan Opera House, where ABT performs its spring season. The crowd was filled with young girls — black and white — in their party dresses.

"She single-handedly made that a diverse audience," said Wendy Perron, one-time editor of Dance Magazine.

IN BRIEF

Critics swoon over Miguel's Wildheart

flip-flop on transit fares With the R&B twinkler Kaleidoscope Dream, Miguel earned a gold plaque, a Grammy Award and seemingly unanimous critical regard. The ambitious Adorn maestro accomplished something else, too: He reintroduced himself to audiences who might have dismissed him.

"I think I kind of had a chip on my shoulder. I had this sense that I had to prove my intentions since All I Want is You," said the 29-year-old Los Angeles singer, referring to his uneven, conventional debut.

"The great thing about my last album is that it did help change the perspective of people and how they looked at me. This time, I feel less concerned with trying to prove that."

That self-certainty spawned Wildheart, which since its release this week has inspired the sort of rhapsodic critical praise that's become routine for the spy song-writer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



NOSTALGIA

Studios in peril with the rise of bedroom producers

SOUND CHECK

Alan Cross



Rush fans were sent into a tizzy a few weeks back with word that the band's once-favourite recording studio was up for sale for \$18,000. That's not a typo.

Rush made seven albums at Le Studio in Morin Heights, near the Laurentians in Quebec, earning it the nickname of Rush's Abbey Road. David Bowie, Bryan Adams, Keith Richards and the Bee Gees also made the trek to the studio by the lake. But after it was sold by André Perry, its owner/builder, and then sold again, the place fell into severe disrepair. All the gear is gone, the roof is falling in and the only clients these days are squirrels, mice and the odd skunk.

The current ownership has been trying to sell the property since 2009 with zero luck. After falling \$18K behind on taxes on the 233-acre property, the town threatened to sell the place at auction. But at the last second, the back taxes were paid and the auction was cancelled. The owners still hope to turn the facility into some kind of spa retreat.

This isn't the only legendary recording studio that's fallen on hard times. After Beatles producer George Martin built AIR Studios in Monserrat in the Caribbean, it hosted Dire Straits, Pink Floyd, The Police, The Rolling Stones and dozens of others. But after it was ruined by Hurricane Hugo in 1989 (and after more than half of Monserrat was devastated by a volcanic



Abbey Road Studios is one of remaining legendary recording studios that hasn't fallen on hard times.

COURTESY ALAN CROSS

eruption in 1995), it was abandoned and never rebuilt.

Twenty miles outside of Paris, Château d'Herouville — a former workplace of David Bowie, Elton John and Iggy Pop — is apparently still looking for a new owner after two years on the market. For \$1.7 million CAD, you get what can be generously described as a "handyman's special."

Olympic Studios in London, The Record Plant in New York and Sound City in Van Nuys are also defunct, despite being the birthplaces of some of the greatest albums of all time.

Others (such as Mississauga's Metalworks) continue to operate by doubling as multimedia schools.

Why all the carnage? With record companies slashing budgets, few acts can afford facilities that rent for thousands of dollars a week. This makes it near impossible for owners to maintain the equipment, let alone upgrade it. Meanwhile, technology has progressed to the point where you can make a decent-sounding album on a laptop in your bedroom.

Sadly, there will be more deaths like Le Studios' in music's future.

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Kim Kardashian braves centre stage



CONTRIBUTED

GUEST APPEARANCE

Kim talks body image, selfies and family at acclaimed club

The big reveal from Kim Kardashian's guest turn for San Francisco's revered Commonwealth Club of California on Tuesday night? She was wearing maternity Spanx under her black designer dress to conceal cellulite, not her pregnant belly.

The reality TV star and fashion mogul was invited by the 112-year-old club that describes itself as the nation's oldest and largest public affairs program to talk about her famous family, the business of millennial culture and the objectification of women in media.

Before her visit, the Commonwealth Club's invitation to Kardashian provoked minor controversy.

Some members and listeners of the club's radio broadcasts said they felt she was not worthy of sharing the same spotlight as such notable past speakers as President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Martin Luther King Jr. The program's Facebook page has lit up in recent days with comments opposing and supporting her selection.

Kardashian did discuss the key topics, and others, during an hour-long appearance before an adoring audience that

was mostly young and female.

Judge LaDoris Cordell noted that Kardashian has 94 million social media followers.

"Maybe it's the bikini selfies," the photogenic guest said. "I think I definitely overshare, but I'm really engaged."

The judge also asked if it is realistic for young girls to be successful in a man's world.

Kardashian, who has makeup, hair care, perfume, and clothing lines to her credit along with a bestselling game app, was thoughtful.

"There is this generation of young people — girls — who are beautiful but don't have a

ON HER FAMILY

During her time on stage, Kardashian said the public had been "more supportive than we ever could have imagined" of Caitlyn Jenner and the rest of her family.

strong work ethic," she said. "People sometimes think that with looks things will be easy, but I just encourage people to put in the work."

The most meaningful exchange might have come when Cordell, who was the first African-American female judge appointed to the bench in Northern California, wondered how Kardashian and her husband, rapper Kanye West, planned to protect their biracial children from discrimination. Kardashian shared making the difficult decision not to engage with a fellow airline passenger who screamed profanity and racial comments at her while she was travelling with her daughter.

West "is very vocal about racial issues," she said. "Our communication, I think, will be really helpful for our children."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEGAL DISPUTE

Katy hits a home nun

Katy Perry is caught in a property dispute between a group of elderly nuns and the Los Angeles Archdiocese over who owns a hilltop convent overlooking Hollywood.

The dispute centres on who is authorized to sell the convent. The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary say the building is theirs, and they've sold it to a local restaurateur, Dana

Hollister, who has already moved in.

In a June 19 lawsuit, the archdiocese claimed it is responsible for selling the property, and plans a \$14.5 million deal with another buyer. The defendants in the suit say that buyer is Perry.

Hollister's attorney, Randy Snyder, says the dispute has nothing to do with Perry, but rather is a battle between the diocese and the nuns.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



HOUSE OF CARDS

Neve's in the House

Neve Campbell is set to join the series House of Cards.

The Scream actress will star alongside existing cast members Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright for Season 4 of the show, Deadline reports.

The exact character to be taken on by Campbell in the White House pol-

itical drama, produced by Netflix, is not yet known.

The actress is also appearing in the second season of the NBC comedy Welcome To Sweden.

Filming for House of Cards is scheduled to start this summer, with Season 4 airing in 2016.

AFP



CUTTING TIES

Trump gets dumped

Rapper Flo Rida has pulled out of his guest appearance at the Miss USA pageant later this month and Macy's has dumped Donald Trump, part of the continued fallout over the GOP hopeful's remarks about Mexican immigrants during his presidential campaign announcement.

The pageant also lost both its co-hosts Tuesday, with Dancing with the Stars

Cheryl Burke and MSNBC anchor Thomas Roberts bowing out.

Earlier Wednesday, Macy's became the latest company to end its relationship with Trump. Companies have been cutting ties with Trump left and right after his presidential campaign kickoff speech last week in which he declared that some Mexican immigrants bring drugs and crime to the U.S. and are rapists. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Micro lofts in Prime on the Plaza in Surrey, B.C. (above and left), will range from 300 to 437 sq. ft., with a starting price of \$139,000.

CONTRIBUTED

The big appeal of smaller size

DEVELOPMENTS

Buyers are snapping up micro condos countrywide



CONDO TRENDS

Duncan McAllister

Micro condos are coming to Canada, providing affordability for first-time buyers. Popular with students, downsizers and investors, this new housing form appeals to the consummate downtowner.

Smaller suites are the norm in places like London, Tokyo and New York, and in Canadian cities, they've proved enormously popular with surprisingly swift sales.

Ranging in size from 250 to 400 sq. ft., they're a perfect size for a pied à terre, and for buyers who want to stake their claim on a piece of the



Vibe houses small condos but the building will include eateries and retail space at street level in Edmonton. CONTRIBUTED

downtown condo market and who are willing to trade private space for public space. "The main amenity is the city itself," says developer Jon Stovell, president of Reliance Properties. "It's a 300-square-foot condominium with a three-million-square-foot living room."

The company has been actively building its popular micro lofts in Vancouver, Victoria and Surrey, B.C.

In Vancouver, home owner-

ship of even a regular studio or one-bedroom is an impossibility for a lot of people, says Stovell. The micro lofts have proven popular with younger purchasers.

"Millennials totally get this equation," says Stovell. "They're much less status conscious."

Urban Capital got the ball rolling a few years ago, with its Smart House projects. The micro condo trend has definitely been growing and ex-



The main amenity is the city itself

Developer Jon Stovell

panding internationally, says partner David Wex.

"We pressed the reset button on condo design. What we're offering at Smart House Ottawa is a way to live affordably and sustainably right in the city's heart."

With micro condos, Wex says the focus is on smart design and space-saving ideas. Everything from storage to appliances is cleverly thought out with an economy of space in mind.

In Edmonton, Vibe condos by the Carrington Group is the city's first foray into smaller suites. "The micro condos are not really here yet," explains project sales manager Riley Lagaden, who initially wasn't sure how they

+ NEAT TRICKS

Kyla Rozman's tips on organizing a small condo

Think up

- Maximize the tops of your closets by adding shelves and bins with locking lids.
- Taller furniture allows for more storage, such as tall bookcases. Use all the space at the top of your walls.

Think down

- Your side tables and coffee table should come with storage spaces (such as a shelf or drawers).
- Multipurpose the bed with a hideaway unit or

with storage bins underneath.

- Put narrow cabinets behind the bathroom door — it's a great spot for all the little containers.

Think out

- Let go of some belongings. If it doesn't really serve you and it's not something you love, it should go.

- Start with the question, how many do I really need? If it's something you only use once a year, consider borrowing it from a friend (think camping gear).

DUNCAN McALLISTER

would fly. After launching, he was pleasantly surprised with the response. "Edmonton has been waiting for this."

Need help organizing your small condo? Kyla Rozman is co-owner of Vancouver-based In Order To Succeed Professional Organizing. The com-

pany specializes in helping people make efficient use of every square inch of space.

"When in a small space you need to think up, think down or think out," says Rozman, who sees micro condos as a growing trend as more and more retirees are downsizing.

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‘Swiss Army Knife’ Frolik inks five-year Flames deal

NHL FREE AGENCY

Goalie Ramo also back for another season in Calgary

The Calgary Flames signed “utility tool” Michael Frolik to a five-year contract and brought goaltender Karri Ramo back for another season when unrestricted free agency opened Wednesday.

Frolik’s deal is worth US\$4.3 million annually. Ramo will earn \$3.8 million on a one-year deal.

Those moves came a day after Calgary announced newly acquired defenceman Dougie Hamilton signed on for six years and \$34.5 million.

Frolik, 27, is coming off back-to-back 42-point seasons with the Winnipeg Jets. The right-winger played all 82 games this past season for 19 goals and 23 assists. His plus-minus was plus-8. The six-foot-one, 200-pound Czech was held pointless in four playoff games.

Flames general manager Brad Treliving compared Frolik to a “Swiss Army Knife.”

“He’s able to do a lot of different things that are very valuable,” Treliving said. “He probably is not going to be a guy that scores you 30 goals, but he’s going to do a lot of the



Calgary Flames new signing Michael Frolik scored 42 points in each of the last two seasons with the Winnipeg Jets MARIANNE HELM/GETTY IMAGES

heavy lifting in some of the areas that aren’t so sexy that help you win games.”

Frolik was paid \$3.3 million in 2014-15. “Calgary has a lot of talent. I had a good feeling about them,” Frolik told The Canadian Press from Florida. “I talked to (Flames forward) Jiri Hudler, too, and he said the city is great and the organization is perfect, too.

“He’s able to do a lot of different things that are very valuable. He’s going to do a lot of the heavy lifting in some of the areas that aren’t so sexy that help you win games.”

Calgary manager Brad Treliving on Michael Frolik

“They did the right steps last year and I think they’ve got a bright future in front of them and that’s why I chose Calgary. I’m looking for success there.”

Frolik won a Stanley Cup

NHL

Leafs send Kessel off to Pittsburgh

Phil Kessel is joining Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin with the Pittsburgh Penguins as the Toronto Maple Leafs begin the process of dismantling an ineffective core that made just one playoff appearance.

Management took the first wrecking ball swing to this Leafs roster Wednesday, sending Kessel to the Penguins in a blockbuster trade that netted prospects Kasper Kapanen and Scott Harrington, winger Nick Spaling and two draft picks.

“Phil is certainly a very talented

player, but we know that changes had to come,” Leafs president Brendan Shanahan said. “What we were doing here as a group wasn’t working.”

The rebuilding starts now, absent Kessel, his almost automatic 30 goals a season and his \$8 million US cap hit. The Leafs retain 15 per cent of that salary (\$1.2 million) for the next seven years but cleared much-needed space to begin constructing what Shanahan hopes is a Stanley Cup contender.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Rangers’ Sather resigns

Glen Sather didn’t get a chance to raise the Stanley Cup as general manager of the New York Rangers, so he’ll just have to settle for making them a lot better in his 15 seasons in charge.

Sather on Wednesday announced that he was stepping down and being replaced by longtime assistant Jeff Gorton. The past four years the Rangers made the Eastern Conference finals three times and the Stanley Cup final once, in 2014. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

McDavid settles in to life as an Oiler

Connor McDavid, the teen phenom forecast to be hockey’s next great superstar, officially hit the ice Wednesday with the Edmonton Oilers.

And the 18-year-old made it clear he’s all in on the Oil Drop. McDavid underwent medical and fitness tests before hitting the ice along with other prospects for power skating drills on the first day of the Oilers orientation camp.

“The fitness testing wasn’t a whole lot of fun, but (it was)

with the Chicago Blackhawks in 2013, when he had three goals and seven assists in 23 playoff games. He’s compiled 95 goals and 140 assists in 512 career games with Florida, Chicago and Winnipeg.

The Flames also signed centre Derek Grant, who played last season in the American Hockey League for the Binghamton Senators, to a one-year contract. Calgary dealt minor-league forward Max Reinhart to Nashville Predators for a conditional fourth-round draft pick.

Ramo, who turned 29 on Wednesday, posted a 15-9-3 record, a 2.60 goals-against average and a .912 save percentage in his second season in Calgary.

The Finn replaced Jonas Hiller during Calgary’s second-round playoff series against the Anaheim Ducks.

Ramo raised his stock for free agency averaging 2.86 goals against per game and a save percentage of .906 in seven post-season appearances.

Instead of testing the open market, the six-foot-two, 206-pound goalie opted to return to Calgary for a raise on his \$2.75 million salary last season.

“The only thing this team is going to do is get better, so I wanted to come back,” Ramo said. “Obviously it’s a one-year deal ... you have to try to fit in somewhere and I felt really comfortable signing a one-year contract.” THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Jays’ Smoak pounds pair in 11-2 rout of Red Sox

Justin Smoak loves being a part of the Toronto Blue Jays’ offence, no matter what his role.

Smoak hit two home runs with three runs batted in and Toronto cruised to an 11-2 victory over the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday. “It’s awesome. Best offence in the game,” said Smoak, who was drafted by the Rangers in 2008. “I feel like in 2010 when I was with Texas, being in that offence, it was really good but this one’s a lot better.”

The Rangers scored 787 runs in 2010, fourth best in the American League that season, on the way to an AL championship. Toronto has 435 runs so far this year, by far the most in Major League Baseball.

Edwin Encarnacion, Jose Bautista and Josh Donaldson also hit home runs for Toronto (42-38), ending a small two-game skid. Jose Reyes had four hits and three runs batting lead-off for the Blue Jays. Mark Buehrle (9-4) pitched seven innings, giving up one run on four hits. The left-hander struck out seven with 106 pitches. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Roughriders sign prolific veteran kicker McCallum

Paul McCallum will be back for a 23rd season after all. The Saskatchewan Roughriders announced Wednesday that they have signed the veteran kicker after he was released by the B.C. Lions during training camp.

The 45-year-old Vancouver native made 38 of 42 field goal attempts for a league high 90.5 per cent completion rate in 18 regular season games with the Lions. He was named a 2014 West Division all-star.

McCallum said on Twitter that the Lions asked him to retire in training camp as 23-year-olds Richie Leone and Anthony Fera competed for the job in training camp. McCallum asked for his release instead. McCallum has the second most points in CFL history (3,022), behind former Lions kicker Lui Pasaglia. He also has played in the sixth most games in league history.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WIMBLEDON

Raonic's 29 aces carry him into 3rd round

Milos Raonic rode his blistering serve to the third round of Wimbledon on Wednesday, firing 29 aces to hold off veteran Tommy Haas 6-0, 6-2, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (4).

The seventh-seeded Canadian, who hit the third-fastest serve in tournament history at 233 km/h, appeared to be cruising to victory early on as Haas managed to win just six points in the 17-minute first set. But the experienced German found

his game in the third set, winning the tiebreaker to make Raonic work for the victory.

Raonic said he was never concerned, despite Haas's comeback.

"I was serving pretty well," said the player from Thornhill, Ont. "That's always going to make my job a little bit easier."

Still, Raonic was impressed with the play of Haas, who at 37 became the oldest man on Monday to win a match at

+ NEXT TEST

Raonic will meet Australia's Nick Kyrgios in a re-match of their 2014 quarter-final, a match Raonic won 6-7, 6-2, 6-4, 7-6 (4).

Wimbledon since Jimmy Connors in 1991.

"I think it's incredible what he's doing," said Raonic. "It's

not just playing at 37 but playing at 37 and constantly coming back from many different things. It's a testament to the passion he has for the game and the kind of work ethic and resilience he has that makes big problems not seem too big."

Raonic and Vasek Pospisil of Vancouver are the lone Canadians left in the singles draw after Eugenie Bouchard made a first-round exit on Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Laura Bassett, left, of England is comforted by Jo Potte after Wednesday's loss to Japan. KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES

Japan aided by England's own goal

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Defending champs to face U.S. in final

WEDNESDAY Semifinal

2	1
JAPAN	ENGLAND

Laura Bassett's own goal in the 92nd minute proved to be the heartbreaker as Japan punched its ticket through to the Women's World Cup final with a dramatic 2-1 victory over England on Wednesday.

Fourth-ranked Japan, the defending champion from the 2011 World Cup in Germany and silver medallists at the 2012 London Olympics, will meet the United States in the gold-medal match on Sunday in Vancouver.

It was actually the first time that Japan has defeated England in a major international tourney, losing 2-0 to England in the group stage at the 2011 Women's World Cup, Japan's last loss in the tournament.

Aya Miyami scored on penalty kick for Japan in the 33rd minute. England got a penalty kick call of its own in the 40th minute with Fara Williams took the shot converting to even the score.

The game appeared to be headed to extra time, but a long Japanese cross in the 92nd minute hit Bassett's foot and deflected off the post and in, although it took the new goal-line technology to declare it a goal and give Japan the victory.

Japan has now won nine consecutive World Cup games dating back to 2011 and is the only team in this year's tournament to win all of its games outright. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PALM TAROT ENERGY READINGS

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

RECIPE Chicken, Mango and Rice Noodle Stir-fry



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

twitter: @rosereisman



Serves four.

Ready in

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients

- 8 oz boneless chicken breast
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup sliced onion
- 1 Tbsp minced ginger
- 1 Tbsp hot red chili curry paste
- 2 tsp chopped garlic
- 1 cup sliced red bell pepper
- 3 Tbsp sweet chili sauce (Heinz or Asian flavoured)
- 2 Tbsp low sodium soy sauce
- 1 Tbsp lemon juice
- 2 tsp sesame oil
- 4 oz rice noodles (medium width)
- 1 cup thinly sliced mango
- 3 Tbsp chopped basil or cilantro

Directions

1. In a grill or sauté pan sprayed with vegetable oil, cook chicken just until temperature reaches 165 F or cooked through, about eight minutes. Let cool slightly, then slice into medallions.
2. Meanwhile, in a large skillet, add vegetable oil, onion, ginger, curry paste and garlic. Stir fry just until onions soften, then add bell peppers and sauté for two minutes.
3. For sauce, mix chili sauce, soy sauce, lemon juice and sesame oil.
4. Cook rice noodles while vegetables are cooking, just until tender. Drain noodles and place on serving platter. Add cooked vegetables and sauce, mix well. Garnish with chicken, mango, basil.

Nutrition per serving

- Calories 242
- Sodium 597 mg

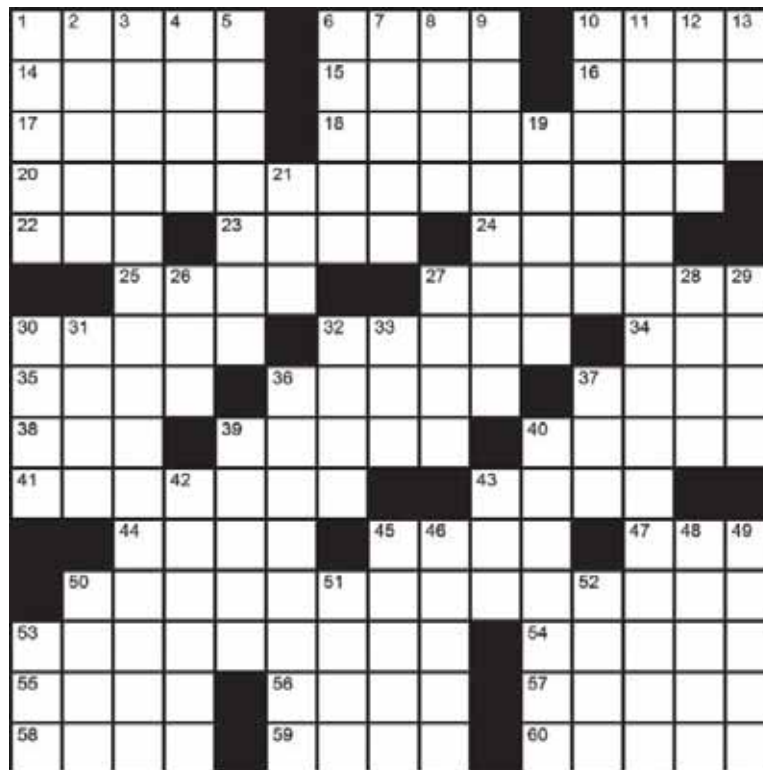
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. County fair attractions
6. Plucked orchestra instrument
10. Song in '65's "The Sound of Music": "Climb __ Mountain"
14. "___ economy is always beauty." - Henry James
15. Nobelist Mr. Wiesel
16. "Well, well, wells."
17. Love conquers all = __ vincit amor
18. Moveable pieces sofa
20. French explorer sharing the name of a Montreal bridge: 2 wds.
22. "Gimme __ '1" (Edmonton cheer-starter)
23. Modernists
24. Brewer's kiln
25. Foe in Fido's fur
27. __-__ record, as in sports
30. Latte's bubbles
32. Where Joni Mitchell felt like a "free man"
34. "___ Wiedersehen!"
35. River islets
36. Seasoned yogurt dip of India
37. "Meet Me ___. Louis" (1944)
38. Homer's exclamation!
39. Like, in Laval
40. Some students, shortly 41. 1970s singer Cat



43. It's not salmon, it's this
44. "The __" (Reality show Anderson Cooper hosted)
45. Scottish family
47. Roadside mil. hazard
50. Casey and Finnegan puppeteer

- who is a Member of the Order of Canada: 2 wds.
53. __ Berries (Canadian fruits)
54. Alongside: 2 wds.
55. "What ___ mind reader?"
56. "Anything __?"

57. Film part
58. Canadian convenience store chain
59. Notices
60. "The Jetsons" son

DOWN

1. Wine of Spain
2. Jude Law's

- "Cold Mountain" (2003) role
3. Sly & The Family Stone hit: 4 wds.
4. Mr. La Salle of "ER"
5. Steadfast
6. "___ Fine" by The Chiffons
7. Sir Guinness'

8. Costa's companion
9. 'Canada's Victorian Oil Town' in Ontario
10. Someone self-centred
11. Titan (b.circa1490 - d.1576), for one: 2 wds.
12. Bring up
13. Opium perfume monogram
19. Tilted lettering [abbr.]
21. "Yikes!"
26. "___ magic!"
27. Mr. Johnson
28. Overcooked meal
29. Tiny amphibians
30. Trends
31. Carouse
32. Ms. Dawber's
33. Aspiration
36. "Be My Baby" by The ___
37. 'Opt' suffix
39. Salsa singer
- Ms. Cruz
40. Canadian brand of tofu
42. Smirnoff drinks
43. Spotted, to Tweety Bird
45. Shut
46. City paths
48. It's short for 'low budget'
49. Cartoon duck
50. "She's a Bad Mama ___" by Carl Carlton
51. Courtney Love band
52. Envelope insertion [abbr.]
53. Director Mr. Mendes

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You will be forced to choose between two tempting possibilities today. If it's a choice between moving up in the world and making a positive difference, make a difference.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Do you stick with what you know or try something new? The planets suggest you will have more fun if you take a chance.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Try not to make any rash decisions about money matters today because the full moon warns you are likely to regret it. No matter how confident and enthusiastic you may be, you won't be thinking clearly enough to make a rational decision.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
It may feel as if you are being held back from fulfilling your potential but don't worry. While the moon is full you should take your time and wait to see how things develop.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Today's full moon warns in no uncertain terms that you must take care of your health. If you take on too much over the next few days you are sure to regret it. Be kind to yourself.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You may be more emotional than usual today but there is no need to worry. Sometimes things build up to such an extent that they must be let out and the full moon makes this one such occasion.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
There may be chaos in every direction today but if you stay calm there is not much it can do to harm you personally. Loved ones will be rather touchy though, so you might like to stay out of their way.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You would benefit from getting out more. Short trips are lucky for you now, although they won't be without their ups and downs. The important thing is that you are visible. Remind the world you still exist.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Today you will be critical both of yourself and others. Don't worry about it — you're allowed to be less than superhuman once in a while.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
No matter how self-controlled you are today's full moon in your sign will heighten your emotions. If you do lose your temper don't be too hard on yourself.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
No matter how busy you are, you must return a favour of some kind today. Someone was good enough to help you out, now you must do what you can for them.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
The full moon warns this is not the right time to make waves. You may have strong opinions about what's going on around you but there is no point making enemies.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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